

I am a Flight Attendant and I am against cellular telephone use aboard airborne aircraft for the following reasons:

1. Passenger compliance with portable electronic devices is difficult on a good day -- it is hard enough to get people to turn off their cell phones, pagers, blackberries, computers, DVD players, MP3 players, calculators, gameboys, hand held poker games, etc. during taxi, takeoff and landing and I can only imagine the difficulty of enforcing when passengers can talk on their cell phone and when they can't.

On my airline, it is almost impossible to get the passengers to comply with the seatbelt sign, let alone compliance with cell phone use!

2. I also strongly believe that having people - most likely strangers - sitting in such close proximity on an aircraft talking on cell phones is an invasion of 'personal space'. In other words, how fair is it for a middle seat passenger who is trying to get some rest to be sitting between two people barking into their cell phones?

3. I also strongly believe that cell phone use aboard airborne aircraft will lead to an increase in 'air rage'. Everyone has been subjected to a loud-talker on a cell phone and on the ground it is easy enough to move away from them. On an airplane the space is too tightly confined and I think that the tension, animosity and frustrations of passengers would quickly lead to shouting matches and physical confrontation. It doesn't exactly make for a safe and comfortable flying experience.

While I am against cellular telephone use aboard airborne aircraft, I would be in favor of having a wireless network aboard aircraft for internet access and text messaging.

Thank you for considering my opinions!